



**US Army Corps  
Of Engineers**  
Charleston District

# News Release

Release No. 05-12

For Release: Immediate

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## Charleston District's Regulatory Division Reorganizes

**July 8, 2005**

CHARLESTON, S.C. -- Recently, the US Army Corps of Engineers, Charleston District approved a far-reaching plan to fundamentally reorganize the Corps' Regulatory Program in the State of South Carolina. The new changes not only include how the District's Regulatory Program is organized, but also increases the number of personnel, enhances the regulatory education process for the public and increases collaboration with state permitting agencies.

The most notable change will occur in how the Regulatory Division works. The organization has converted from a functionally-oriented process into a cradle-to-grave business process. Previously, the process was defined by the division of labor determined by the type of activity – i.e., permits and enforcements. The new process is geographically based and has watershed teams who handle issues and determinations from start to finish. This transformation includes upgrading the existing field offices in Columbia and Conway to full-service, cradle-to-grave offices.

According to the District's plan, the regulatory office has divided the State of South Carolina into six Watershed Groups managed by Corps project managers in three offices – Charleston, Conway, and Columbia.

"The use of Watershed Teams means there will be designated people assigned to a designated area," explained Tina Hadden, Chief of Charleston District's Regulatory Division. "This will allow these teams to become intimately familiar with their area of operation, and enable the team members to evaluate the cumulative effects of their decisions on the entire watershed area."

The Charleston District is also working with state agencies to identify portions of the permits process that could be accomplished concurrently, instead of sequentially. This, in addition to preparing sample applicant packages to demonstrate upfront what is required and the use of permit checklists, should aid in reducing the time it takes to process a permit application.

"Time delays resulting from issues such as interagency coordination and incomplete application packages are being addressed in this reorganization plan," said Hadden. "Improved understanding, education and communication are also important aspects of our new business process."

The Charleston District will hold education seminars open to the public in the near future to assist those who are planning to apply for regulatory permits. They will also send out customer surveys to receive feedback on the effects of these new initiatives.

"We are in the midst of a dynamic change," said Lt. Col. Edward R. Fleming, Charleston District Commander. "This reorganization will streamline our internal processes and reduce the delivery time. It provides the opportunity for us to more efficiently and effectively serve the people of South Carolina."